

FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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TO: Department of State

FROM: AMEMBASSY LONDON 79

July 6, 1950 XR 795.00

REF:

SUBJECT: Transmitting message from Czech National Committee in London to the President.

For Dept. use only.

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The following message was received by the Embassy July 1, 1950 with the request that it be transmitted to the President. It is being forwarded to the Department inasmuch as the writers of the message have no appropriate diplomatic channels of their own.

FROM THE CZECH NATIONAL COMMITTEE LONDON  
25, Rosedew Road, W. 6.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF U. S. A.  
MR. HARRY S. TRUMAN, WASHINGTON

MR. PRESIDENT,

ALL EFFORTS TO PRESERVE PEACE AT ANY PRICE WERE BUT AN INCENTIVE TO THE DICTATORIAL AND OPPRESSIVE REGIMES IN THEIR DESIGN AGAINST PEACE AND FREEDOM OF NATIONS. DICTATORIAL REGIMES REGARD EVERY PACIFIST ATTITUDE OR MOVE AS WEAKNESS AND DECADENCE.

YOUR HISTORIC DECISION TO RESIST AGGRESSION (MADE IN UNISON WITH ALL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE) HAS BEEN RECEIVED WITH SATISFACTION BY ALL STILL FREE NATIONS AND WITH ENTHUSIASM BY PEOPLES OPPRESSED BY COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP.

THE CZECH NATION BECAME VICTIM OF A FAINTHEARTED POLICY AND OF COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNISM. IT WAS BEFALLEN BY DEFEATISM BECAUSE, UNTIL YESTERDAY, IT SAW NO POWER WHICH COULD OR WOULD PUT AN END TO COMMUNIST VIOLENCE. YOUR HISTORIC DECISION HAS AROUSED AGAIN THE SPIRIT OF THE OPPRESSED NATIONS WHO REGARD YOU AS THE LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD.

KNOWING THE CHARACTER OF THE DICTATORIAL REGIMES, THEIR WAY OF THINKING THEIR STRATEGY AND TACTICS, WE ARE FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT ONLY THE DECISION YOU HAVE JUST MADE CAN SAVE THE PEACE AND, AT THE SAME TIME, TO STRENGTHEN THE SELFCONSCIOUSNESS OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES WHO HAVE BECOME CONVINCED THAT AGGRESSION IS NOT OMNIPOTENT AFTER ALL.

JHB:ins:res

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LONDON 79

WE, WHO SUFFER UNDER THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE POLICY OF APPEASEMENT AND EVIL, KNOW OF COURSE, THAT FREEDOM HAS TO BE FOUGHT FOR NOT BY WORDS, BUT BY DEEDS. WE ARE THEREFORE DETERMINED TO ORGANIZE A CZECH UNIT OF VOLUNTEERS WHICH COULD BE A PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL LEGION AND THUS SUPPORT, BY DEEDS, THE HEROIC STRUGGLE OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE FOR FREEDOM. WE REALIZE THAT BY HELPING TO DEFEND THE FREEDOM OF OTHERS, WE ARE FIGHTING FOR OUR OWN FREEDOM.

WE BEG YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AS SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES, TO ACCEPT THIS OUR MOST SINCERE OFFER AND TO HELP US IN ITS REALIZATION.

PLEASE, MR. PRESIDENT, ACCEPT THE ASSURANCE OF OUR HIGHEST REGARDS AND RESPECT.

GOD BLESS YOU :

LONDON, JULY 1, 1950.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF: THE CZECH NATIONAL COMMITTEE,  
LONDON: GENERAL LEV PRHALA, D.S.O. - THE CZECH DEMOCRATIC  
CONVENTION: DR. KAREL LOCHER - THE CZECH LABOUR UNION: VLADIMIR  
LEZAK BORIN - THE CZECH CHRISTIAN SOCIAL MOVEMENT: PROF. F. ADOLF  
NEMEC - THE UNION OF CZECH EX-SERVICEMEN & THEIR FRIENDS: OPT.  
RUDOLF CAIS - THE FREE CZECH YOUTH ORGANIZATION: STANISLAV  
BRZOBCHATY - THE UNION OF CZECH STUDENTS: JIRI KVIGERA.

Embassy Comment: The Czech National Committee in London should not be confused with the Council of Free Czechoslovakia which also has a Regional Board in Great Britain including the more prominent Czech refugees. The group which sent the foregoing message is headed by General LEV PRHALA, who during and after the last war consistently opposed the policies of President Benes and did not return to Czechoslovakia after 1945. It will be noted that the message approves the recent decision of the President to combat aggression and offers to organize a Czech unit of volunteers to form a part of an international legion, thus supporting by deeds the "heroic struggle of the Korean people for freedom". The Embassy has acknowledged to General Prhala the receipt of the communication, followed by a statement that it has been forwarded to the Department of State in Washington.

*J. H. Bruins*  
John H. Bruins  
Counselor of Embassy

JHBruins:res

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